	Case 1:04-cy-01207-GMS	Document 75-14	Filed 02/02/2006 Page 1 of 33
1	Brian FitzPatrick to Captain Thomas Dinetta dated	1	Q. I'd like to direct your attention to the eighth
2	April 29th, 1999?	2	line down on the first page, the sentence that begins
3	A. Yes, sir, it is.	3	with, "As the NCOIC of the range"; do you see that?
4	Q. And does the "Re:" line say "range project"?	4	A. I sure do.
5	A. Yes, it does.	5	Q. Does that say that, "As the NCOIC of the range,
6	Q. Now, I'd like to direct your attention to item	6	I reported continuously regarding the lead
7	No. 4 in the memo; do you see that?	7	contamination, personal lead levels and the recurring
8	A. Yes, sir.	8	problems with the ventilation"; does it say that?
9	Q. Does this appear to indicate that on April	9	A. Yes, it does.
10	26th, 1999, the rear of the range was found to have a	10	Q. Then skipping to the second to the last line
11	large amount of lead dust on the floor and on the	11	from the bottom, do you see that, where it says, "I
12	equipment?	12	have a very vivid memory"?
13	A. Yes, it does.	13	A. Yes, sir.
14	Q. Now, independent of this memo, did you ever	14	Q. Does that say, quote, I have a very vivid
15	recall hearing about there being problems with dust	15	memory of my tenure at the range and the problems that
16	accumulation in the rear of the range?	16	were encountered on a regular basis, period, close
17	A. No, sir.	17	quote; does it say that?
18	Q. All right, Colonel, you can put that document	18	A. Yes, sir, it does.
19	down.	19	Q. Does it appear that Sergeant Parton was
20	A. Thank you.	20	indicating in this memo that he encountered problems
21	Q. Colonel, I'd like to put another document in	21	while he was the NCOIC of the range on a regular

A. He says he reported continuously, you know,

regarding the lead contamination and personnel lead

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22 basis?

23

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

1 (Chaffinch Exhibit No. 2 which is a
2 memorandum to Lt. Raiph Davis from Sgt. Alfred W.
3 Parton, Jr. was marked for identification.)
4 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
5 Q. Now, Colonel, do you have this document in
6 front of you?
7 A. Yes, sir, I do.
8 Q. Does this appear to be an undated memorandum
9 from Sergeant Al Parton of the special operations

response team to Lieutenant Ralph Davis, the deputy

front of you which -- I am not sure if this was

previously marked in a deposition or not, so I am just

going to call this Chaffinch Deposition Exhibit No. 2.

22

23

24

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11

12

13 Q. And is this a two-page document?

14 A. Yes, sir, it is.

A. Yes, sir, it does.

director of training?

15 Q. Does the second page appear to be some kind of

an e-mail that was sent in the year 2000?

17 A. Yes, sir, it does.

18 Q. Do you know who Sergeant Al Parton is?

19 A. Yes, I do.

20 Q. Was he running the special operations response

21 team while you were colonel?

22 A. Yes, he was.

23 Q. Did he do a good job at that?

24 A. To the best of my knowledge.

	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
1	levels.
2	Q. And have you ever seen this memo before?
3	A. No, sir, I have not.
4	Q. I think you testified a little earlier that you
5	recalled some problems with the HVAC system and the
6	FTU historically; isn't that right?
7	A. Yes, sir.
8	Q. And you recalled some issues with the lead
9	levels and the personnel of the range?
10	A. I know that they were keeping close watch on
11	them, yes.
12	Q. And Sergeant Parton, in this memo, appears to
13	be touching on some of those same concerns that you
14	have voiced a little earlier; is that right?
15	A. That's correct.
16	Q. Now, let's turn to the second page of this
17	document.
18	A. (Witness complies.)
19	Q. Now, this appears to be an e-mail from Sergeant
20	Parton to, I guess it would be then Colonel Waggaman?
21	A. Yes, sir.
22	MR. ELLIS: Lieutenant colonel.
23	THE WITNESS: It is lieutenant colonel.

MR. ELLIS: I thought you said "then

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- 1 colonel."
- 2 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 3 Q. I am sorry, was he the colonel or lieutenant
- 4 colonel?
- 5 A. Lieutenant colonel.
- 6 Q. Even though it says superintendent at DSP?
- 7 A. Well, that's because everybody that's in the
- 8 superintendent's office gets the same e-mail. But he
- 9 is LTC Waggaman, as you can see. That stands for
- 10 lieutenant colonel.
- 11 Q. Well, in the first sentence of the first
- 12 paragraph of that e-mail, it says, "As you know, we
- 13 are constantly monitoring the lead problems here at
- 14 the range to include personnel lead levels"; does it
- 15 say that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. I think you indicated a little while ago that
- 18 that was one of the areas that you were aware of while
- 19 you were a colonel of the State Police, the monitoring
- 20 of the personnel lead levels; isn't that right?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. Now, going to the second paragraph, does that
- 23 say, "Master Corporal Eddie Cathell was first to have
- 24 his completed. Other members will be complete this

1 A. Yes. sir.

2

- Q. Does that say that we are still experiencing
- 3 lead dust contamination behind the bullet trap with
- 4 the source being the ceiling where the center eye
- 5 beams were installed? And does it go on and say that
- 6 this (sic) a large contamination that has been cleaned
- 7 up twice since I have been here?
- 8 A. Yes, it does.
- 9 Q. And there appears to be some grammatical
- 10 problems with that sentence, but, otherwise, does that
- 11 seem to indicate there have been contamination
- 12 problems behind the bullet trap?
- 13 A. Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. And they have had to be cleaned up several
- 15 times?
- 16 A. I think they said twice since he had been
- 17 there
- 18 Q. Now, do you ever recall hearing anything about
- 19 these lead contamination problems behind the bullet
- 20 trap prior to December of '03?
- 21 A. No. sir. I was never behind the bullet trap
- 22 until I went on one of those tours for the media.
- 23 Q. All right, Colonel. You can put that document
- 24 down.

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

1 week. On today's date, I received notification that

Eddie's level has elevated from a 20 MCG/DL to a 30

- 3 MCG/DL, a rise of ten points since the last test of
- 4 May 1st, 2000"?

- 5 A. Yes, it does.
- 6 Q. Does that appear to be indicating that Trooper
- 7 C's lead levels are elevated from a 20 to a 30?
- 8 A. Yes, it sure does.
- 9 Q. Now, I'd like to direct your attention to the
- 10 fourth paragraph.
- 11 A. Okay.
- 12 Q. The last sentence of that paragraph. I'd like
- 13 to read that to you.
- 14 A. Sure.
- 15 Q. Does that say, "We have now reached a point
- 16 where an instructor has reached a critical level of
- 17 contamination and the problem needs to be resolved";
- 18 does it indicate that?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. Does it Indicate that?
- 21 A. Yes
- 22 Q. Now, still in that fourth paragraph, I'd like
- 23 to direct your attention to the second sentence. Do
- 24 you see where it says, "We are still experiencing"?

- 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
- 1 A. Thank you.
- Q. Now, let's change gears a little bit again and
- get off of some of the historical problems that we
- 4 have been talking about.
- 5 A. Okav.
- 6 Q. When did you first learn about the problems at
- 7 the FTU in the, say, beginning in December of '03?
- 8 What was the first that you heard about the problems
- 9 there?
- 10 MR. ELLIS: I am sorry. When is the first
- 11 he learned about problems there after December 1st?
- 12 MR. NEUBERGER: Of 2003.
- 13 MR. ELLIS: Okay.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Well, I am not exactly sure.
- 15 I would say shortly after, the lieutenant colonel
- 16 probably had given me an update every once in a while.
- 17 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 18 Q. Do you think he would have given you the update
- 19 sometime in December of 2003?
- 20 A. I am not sure. Probably not. But I don't
- 21 know. I can't tell you for sure. I know that we
- 22 closed it at March and I heard about it just prior to
- 23 it being closed.
- 24 Q. That was the first that you had heard about it?

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A. I knew that he was dealing with some problems	1	Q. I got you.
up there, but he was still with Captain Warren, and I	2	How about the second time?
assume that, you know, they were they were taking	3	A. Okay. I see that one, too.
care of whatever needed to be taken care of.	4	Q. Does that appear to be an e-mail that was sent
Q. Did then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish give you	5	from Sergeant Christopher Foraker to Tom MacLeish and
any periodic updates on the progress of what was	6	Paul Eckridge and was copied to Greg Warren and Ralph
happening at the FTU?	7	Davis on Friday, December 19th, 2003?
A. He may have mentioned it, but not you know,	8	A. Sure does.
he didn't go into deep detail or anything.	9	Q. And is the subject of that e-mail "Emergency
Q. For example, did he tell you that members of a	10	Range Issues**?
recruit class were having nosebleeds and having a	11	A. That's what it says.
copper penny taste in their mouths?	12	Q. I'd like to direct your attention to the second
A. That was all over the media after all that	13	paragraph of that e-mail, the sixth line up in the
information got out to whoever. It eventually got to	14	second paragraph.
the auditor's office and also got to the media.	15	A. Okay.
Q. How about before it got to the media, isn't	16	Q. At the very end of the line, it begins a new
that something you would have heard about as the	17	sentence with the word "the"; do you see that?
colonel of the State Police?	18	A. Yes.
A. I probably would have, but, you know, I don't	19	Q. I'd like to read that. Does that say, "The
recall exact conversation by the lieutenant colonel to	20	mechanical operation of this very expensive equipment

22

23

24

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and experience to make proper scientific and

calculated adjustments and measurements when

should not be left to amateurs in the mechanical field

to tweak but for professionals who have the training

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

me. I know that there was one time when there was a

Captain Warren, Do we need to shut the place down?,

conversation with him and Captain Warren and he asked

Q. Do you recall when that was? 2 A. I am going to say January.

and Captain Warren said no.

Q. Of? 3

8

10

21 22

23

24

- A. Of '04. I am going to guess January of '04.
- 5 Q. But you are quessing?
- A. Yeah. But I am in close proximity. It wasn't 6
- March. It either had to be -- I am pretty sure it was
- January.
- Q. Colonel, I'd like to put another document in
- front of you, one which was previously marked as 10
- MacLeish Deposition Exhibit 11; okay? 11
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Now, Colonel, I'd like to direct -- this is a 13
- two-page document, is it not? 14
- MR. ELLIS: I am sorry, MacLeish 11? 15
- MR. NEUBERGER: Yes. 16
- MR. ELLIS: I got it. 17
- BY MR. NEUBERGER: 18
- Q. It's a two-page document, I am sorry? 19
- 20 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. I'd like to direct your attention on the first 21
- page, do you see where it says, "Original message" a 22
- 23 little bit down on the first page?
- 24 A. Yes. Well, it's there twice.

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- 1 necessary"; does it say that? A. Yes. Q. Does it go on to say, "My expertise, as well as
- the entire FTU staff, relies on firearms, officer
- safety, and force training. We do not possess the
- training, skill, the knowledge or the time necessary
- to properly maintain the system at it optimal performance"; does it say that?
- A. Yes, it does.
- 10 Q. Have you ever seen this e-mail before?
- 11 A. No, I have not.
- Q. Did then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish ever tell 12
- you that he had received an e-mail about emergency 13
- 14 range issues?

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- A. I would imagine that he did. I don't 15
- specifically recall, but I would imagine that he did 16
- tell me he was dealing with it.
- Q. Would that be because of the nature of the
- problem, because it's been categorized as an
- 20 emergency? It's not just a day-to-day problem?
- 21 A. It would be because he tried to keep me
- up-to-date on all the different things that, you know, 22
- 23 that came under his purview.
- Q. And was then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish good 24

A - 297 112

	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron	10 14	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L.Aaron
1	at keeping you up-to-date on the other aspects of his	1	Q. Is it your position in this case that the staff
2	job?	2	of the FTU are responsible for fixing the equipment
3	A. Yes, sir.	3	and the upkeep of the equipment in this \$3.3 million
4	Q. Now, did this paragraph, at least the part of	4	facility?
5	the paragraph that I just read to you, did that appear	5	A. It's not my position one way or the other.
6	to be indicating that Sergeant Foraker appeared to be	6	It's, you know, it had been being done and then it
7	did Sergeant Foraker appear to be indicating that	7	wasn't being done. It wasn't my position as to
8	there was some equipment which he and this man were	8	whether I didn't open the range. I didn't have
9	not qualified to fix or tinker with?	9	anything to do with opening the range in 1998. I
10	MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that	10	didn't know what the procedures were and the protocol
11	question.	11	was for the range. I never worked at the range. I
12	THE WITNESS: That's what it indicates.	12	only went there to re-qualify and did that fine each
13	BY MR. NEUBERGER:	13	time and went about to my duties. So, it's not my
14	Q. And does he say that neither he nor his men	14	position one way or the other.
15	possess the training, the skills, or the knowledge	15	Q. Do you think that the men should have been
16	necessary to maintain that equipment"?	16	maintaining the range and keeping up all of the
17	A. That's what you just said. That's what you	17	equipment there?
18	just read.	18	A. I don't know if they should or they shouldn't.
19	Q. Now, apart from this e-mail, in the Delaware	19	I don't know the answer to that.
20	State Police, while you were colonel, the troopers	20	Q. You don't know either way?
21	drive police cars; would that be fair to say?	21	A. I don't have the answer to that. I don't know.
22	A. Yes.	22	Q. Now, do you know who someone named Mark

Q. And are they Crown Vics, usually? 23

A. Road cars are Crown Vics, yeah. 24

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1	Q. If a trooper has a problem with his Crown
2	Victoria and it breaks down, is the trooper authorized
3	to tinker with the engine?
4	A. No, he is not.
5	Q. Is he authorized to mess around with the
6	carburetor?
7	A. No, he is not.
8	Q. Is he authorized to tweak the transmission?
9	A. No, he is not.
10	Q. Is he authorized to do his own little repairs
11	on the engine?

A. 12 13 Q.

14 prob

15 A.

16 troop

17 Q.

18 A.

19

20

21 State

22 A.

23 Q.

24 A. \$3.3 million, I think it cost initially.

8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
If a trooper has a problem with his Crown	1 Q. Have you ever heard his name before?
toria and it breaks down, is the trooper authorized	2 A. No, I have not.
inker with the engine?	3 Q. I'd like to direct your attention to the third
No, he is not.	4 paragraph down on the first page; do you see that? It
is he authorized to mess around with the	5 begins on the first page and goes over onto the second
buretor?	6 page?
No, he is not.	7 A. Yes, sir.
is he authorized to tweak the transmission?	8 Q. The very last line?
No, he is not.	9 A. Okay.
is he authorized to do his own little repairs	10 Q. Actually, the third to the last line.
the engine?	11 A. Okay.
No, he is not.	12 Q. The sentence that begins with, "He has also
What does a trooper have to do when there is a	13 noted"?
blem with his patrol car?	14 A. Yes, sir.
Get in touch with the mechanic at whatever	15 Q. I am going to read that to you; all right?
op facility he works.	16 A. Okay.
And then the mechanic	17 Q. Does that say that, "He has also noted that
Takes care of it from there.	18 regardless of completing the transition to frangible
takes care of it from there? Okay.	19 ammunition, lead contamination will always be present
Do you have any idea how much a Delaware	20 and a health danger due to the lead-lined deceleration
te Police cruiser costs, the patrol cars?	21 chamber. Mr. D'Allesandro stated that the smooth
Twenty-one, \$22,000, probably, just guessing.	22 operation of the bullet trap maintenance would require
Do you know how much it cost to build the FTU?	23 a full-time professional that would also need to be
\$3.3 million. I think it cost initially.	24 equipped with the proper protective gear and trained

23

24

D'Allesandro is?

A. No, I don't.

# Filed 02/02/2006 Page 5 of 33 Case 1:04-cy-01207-GMS Document 75-14 to safely operate the range? 2

1	in the	handling	of	hazardous	lead	and	other

- materials." 2
- 3 Does it say that?
- A. Yes, it does.
- Q. Do you know if full-time professionals came
- into the range on a regular basis wearing protective
- gear and handled the cleanup and abatement and
- hazardous lead and other toxic heavy metals?
- Not to my knowledge.
- 10 Q. Could you read the very next paragraph quietly
- to yourself, the one that begins with "Master Corporal 11
- 12 B. Kurt Price," and tell me when you are finished?
- A. I am finished. 13
- 14 Q. Now, does that paragraph indicate that Master
- Corporals Price and Warren were expressing concern 15
- about the rise in their lead levels as a result of 16
- their conducting maintenance on the bullet trap and on 17
- the bullet recovery system? 18
- 19 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. And then in the, I guess it's the third line
- from the bottom of that paragraph, where it begins 21
- 22 with, "I concur"; do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes, I do.
- 24 Q. Does Sergeant Foraker appear to state that,

- A. No, I didn't hear any of that. I know that
- they had people come from the troops and help them up
- there, but I haven't heard what you are asking.
- Q. If a concern about unsafe staffing levels was
- raised, do you think that would be a serious concern
- that the State Police would need to address?
- A. Could you repeat that again, please?
- Q. Sure. If concerns about unsafe staffing levels
- 10 at the FTU were raised by the personnel working at the
- FTU, do you think that's a serious concern that the 11
- State Police would need to address? 12
- A. I think it needed to be looked into. 13
- Q. Because safety is a big deal in the Delaware 14
- 15 State Police?
- A. Sure 16
- Q. I'd like to put another document in front of
- you, one which was previously marked as MacLeish
- 19 Deposition Exhibit No. 13.
- 20 Colonel, do you have this document in
- 21 front of you?
- A. Yes. I do. 22
- Q. Does this appear to be an e-mail from Sergeant 23
- Foraker to Captain Warren dated January 9th, 2004? 24

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 quote. I concur with my colleagues that this is an
- the bullet trap and recovery system should be left to 3

unnecessary health risk and that the maintenance of

- the trained professionals who can operate in this 4
- 5 environment safely: does it say that?
- 6 A. Yes, it does.

2

- 7 Q. Do you have any knowledge as to how other
- firing ranges throughout the country handle lead 8
- cleanup and cleanup and abatement of other toxic
- materials at firing ranges? 10
- A. Not really. 11
- 12 Q. Colonel, still on this MacLeish Deposition
- Exhibit No. 11, had you ever seen the original e-mail 13
- dated December 19th, 2003, here? 14
- A. No. I have not. 15
- Q. You can put that document down. Colonel. 16
- A. Thank you. 17
- 18 Q. Do you recall, at any point, hearing that there
- were unsafe levels of staffing at the FTU? This was 19
- beginning in December of 2003 forward. 20
- 21 A. No. I do not.
- 22 Q. Do you ever recall hearing that, given the
- 23 industry standards of teacher versus instructor
- ratios, that the FTU did not have enough instructors 24

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 A. Yes. it does.
- Q. And does the subject line say, "Range health
- issues and departmental liability"?
- A. Yes, it does,
- Q. Now, does the first sentence of this e-mail say
- that we are experiencing significant air flow problems
- at the range?
- A. That's what it says.
- Q. Does it go on and state that I have personally
- 10 witnessed the problem since I have returned to the FTU
- on December 1st. 2003: does it say that? 11
- A. Yes, it does. 12
- Q. Does it then continue and say that Corporals 13
- Warren and Price have expressed that this problem has 14
- been in existence for many months and has only been 15
- Band-Aided over time when complaints have been made? 16
- A. That's what it savs.
- Q. Let's skip down two more lines to the end of
- that line where it begins with "Corporal Warwick"?
- 20 A. Yes, sir.
- 21 Q. Does that say, "Corporal Warwick expressed
- that, at one point, the smoke was so dense that he was 22
- 23 barely able to see a shooter on the firing line"; does
- it say that? 24

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- A. Yes, it does.
- Q. Now, from parts of that paragraph that we just 2
- read, do they appear to indicate that there had been
- problems with air flow and with dense smoke at the
- A. That's what it says, per Corporal Warwick.
- Now, in your opinion, at the time you were the
- colonel of the DSP, would it be a concern to you that,
- at the FTU, the instructors couldn't see the students
- 10 on the firing line because of the dense smoke?
- A. I'd say it's time to shut the place down. 11
- Q. Now, let's skip down to the third paragraph of 12
- this e-mail. 13
- Do you see it has a No. 1 at the very 14
- 15 beginning of it?
- 16 A. Okav.
- Q. Does that state that a reddish haze in the air 17
- that is suspended throughout the range when the bullet 18
- strikes the bullet trap? 19
- A. That's what it says. 20
- 21 Q. And does it go on and say that the airborne --
- and you can't read the next word -- are inhaled by the 22
- instructors and the students? 23
- A. Yes. sir. 24

- A. I heard about the copper penny taste in the
- mouth. I didn't know anything about what we ran
- through with Corporal Warwick saying he could barely
- see the shooter on the firing line. I wasn't familia
- with that. I haven't seen this document ever until
- Q. Did then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish ever bring
- these issues to your attention and discuss them with

15

- 10 A. I believe he had a conversation with Greg
- Warren, and he told me, when Greg Warren was 11
- 12 explaining this to him, that he asked Greg Warren
- 13 straight up, Do we need to shut the facility down?,
- and Greg Warren said no.
  - So, at that point, I would imagine if I
- would have heard that, I would have thought, Well, it 16
- must not be as bad as it sounds on this paper, but, of 17
- course, I didn't read this paper until now, so I don't 18
- 19 have any knowledge of this.
- 20 Q. Were you a party to this conversation with Greg
- 21 Warren?
- 22 A. No.

1

- 23 Q. So, you are relying on, I guess, what MacLeish
- told you about his conversation with Greg Warren?

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. Does it continue and say that when anyone blows
- their nose, a large amount of a reddish debris is 2
- 3 discharged?
- A. Yes, it does.
- Q. Does it continue and say that students and
- instructors also complain of a copper penny taste in
- their mouth after shooting and describe a significant
- eye mucus present when awaking the following morning
- after a day on the range?
- 10 A. Yes, it does.
  - Q. Now, let's skip down to the last sentence of
- 12 the same paragraph: okay?
- 13 A. Yas sir.

11

- Q. Does that state that the range staff is under 14
- the impression that without the rapid exhaust and 15
- removal of the copper frangible particulates from our 16
- breathing air, this problem constitutes a potentially 17
- 18 unsafe and unhealthy working environment detrimental
- to our good health and inconsistent with departmental 19
- goals and objectives? 20
- A. Yes, it does say that. 21
- 22 Q. Now, did you ever hear about the issues raised
- that we just ran through? Were they ever brought to 23
- vour attention? 24

- 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
- that he told me, but I do know that he asked Greg

A. Yes. And I don't remember all the specifics

- Warren if he should shut it down.
- Q. Colonel, you can put that document down.
- A. Thank you, sir.
- Q. Colonel, were you ever advised that Sergeant
- Ashley had responded to some health concerns raised by
- Master Corporals Price and Warren by telling them.
- quote, You have to die from something, closed quote?
- 10 A. I don't think I was advised of it. I might
- have read it in some -- I don't know if that was in 11
- 12 the auditor's report or not. I may have read it in
- something, but I wasn't advised of it, no. 13
- Q. Now, speaking as a former colonel of the --14
- A. No. I read it in the suit.
- MR. ELLIS: You read it in the complaint 16
- or some document associated with the litigation?
- THE WITNESS: Yes. 18
- RY MD NEUREDGED. 19
- 20 Q. Now, speaking as the former colonel of the
- 21 Delaware State Police, in your opinion, is it a good
- thing when a supervisor responds to health concerns 22
- 23 raised by a subordinate and tells them. "You have to
- die from something"? 24

#### Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Document 75-14 Filed 02/02/2006 Page 7 of 33 A. He probably should not have said that. A. Well, whenever the lieutenant colonel would For example, if a road trooper went to his 2 bring me up-to-date on it. he would say. We are doing lieutenant or his captain and his troop and said, My 3 this, this, and this, or whatever. He wouldn't just say that they have a concern, so -- he would say that bulletproof vest isn't working, would, You have to die they have a concern about this, so we are doing X. Y. from something, be an appropriate response for his and Z with regards to taking care of whatever it was. lieutenant or his captain to give him? MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form. Q. What's X. Y. and Z? THE WITNESS: No. I don't think he meant A. When he would come to me and explain to me that there has been some things come up at the range -- we anything because you tell people, You better quit smoking, they are going to kill you; they say, I am will just use that, since that's what we are talking going to die from something. You know, I mean -- I about -- with regards to lead levels or whatever, he don't know that that's an appropriate answer, but 12 would say, Well, we are doing, and we are sending them to be tested, or we are, you know, that's what X, Y, that's what people say. 13 BY MR. NEUBERGER: 14 and Z is. Q. But you are telling me that's not an Q. Got vou. Okav. 15

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taken seriously?

A. I sure do.

A. Okav.

BY MR. NEUBERGER:

first half of the year 2004.

(Recess taken.)

16 appropriate answer?

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13 14

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17 A. No, it's not.18 Q. Beginning in December of

Q. Beginning in December of 2003, did you ever

19 hear that Sergeant Foraker and then Master Corporals

20 Price and Warren were concerned about the health and

21 safety of the conditions at the FTU?

22 A. I am sure I did through the lieutenant colonel.

23 Q. The State Police is a paramilitary

24 organization; isn't it?

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- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- 2 Q. And there is a chain of command?
- 3 A. Yes, sir
- Q. And, at the time, you were at the top of the
- 5 chain of command?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. You were the top dog on the food chain?
  - MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: It wasn't a food chain. I
- 10 don't know if that's an appropriate comment at this
- 11 time.
- 12 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 13 Q. There is like a pyramid and you were at the top
- 14 of it; would that be fair to say?
- 15 A. I was a superintendent of State Police, yes.
- 16 Q. And concerns came to your attention as they
- 17 were raised by people lower in the chain of command up
- 18 through the chain of command?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And are you indicating that, somehow, through
- 21 the chain of command, it was brought to your attention
- 22 that Sergeant Foraker and Master Corporal Price and
- 23 Master Corporal Warren were voicing their concerns
- 24 about the conditions at the FTU?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

Do you think the concerns about health and

safety raised by troopers under your command should be

Q. Now, Colonel, do you recall, let's focus on the

- 1 Q. Do you recall whether the Firearms Training
  - 2 Unit was in the media on a regular basis?
  - A. During the first half of '04?
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 A. I don't know if you would say on a regular
- 6 basis. They were in the media a few times.
- 7 Q. Do you recall a time when, I guess that would
- 8 be the director of training for the Delaware State
- 9 Police described the FTU to Tom Eldred of the State
- 10 News as being, quote, the absolute epitome of a
- 11 project from hell, close quote?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. Do you recall seeing that in the media?
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- 15 Q. And I'd like to introduce another exhibit.
- 16 This will be Chaffinch Exhibit No. 3.
- 17 (Chaffinch Exhibit No. 3 bates stamped
- 18 FTU2849 through FTU2940 was marked for
- 19 identification.)
- 20 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 21 Q. Now, Colonel, do you have this document in
- 22 front of you?
- 23 A. Yes, I do.

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Q. Does this appear to be a multi-page document?

A - 301

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2

- 1 A. Sure does.
- 2 Q. If you could just thumb through it and take a
- 3 look at this and tell me if it would be fair to say
- 4 that this is a large number of media articles from
- various newspapers and news outlets about the FTU in
- 6 general?
- 7 MR. ELLIS: Rather than saying "a large
- number," wouldn't it be better to count them? Never
- 9 mind.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Some of the pages don't have
- 11 anything at all about the FTU.
- 12 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 13 Q. Do some of those pages appear to be maybe the
- 14 top half of a part of the newspaper and then the story
- 15 may be a little bit down further on the page?
- 16 MR. ELLIS: Doesn't look like it.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Doesn't look like it to me.
- 18 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 19 Q. Just thumb through that and see if you find any
- 20 articles about the FTU in there?
- 21 A. That's the same one. I can't count them
- 22 because they are duplicate.
- 23 Q. I am not asking you to count them.
- 24 A. I know, but I am just seeing the same one twice

- 1 with your executive staff?
  - A. I may just ask the lieutenant colonel if he saw
- 3 it. If not, I would say you probably ought to take a
- 4 look at it. I don't know that I specifically sat down
- 5 and tweaked it or anything, no.
- 6 Q. Did there come a time when the governor ordered
- 7 an investigation of the FTU by the state auditor?
- A. That's my understanding.
- 9 Q. How did you learn about that?
- 10 A. Through the paper.
- 11 Q. Did you ever talk to Lieutenant Colonel
- 12 MacLeish about it?
- 13 A. I may have. I don't know -- I don't remember
- 14 or recall any exact conversations about it, but I may
- 15 have
- 16 Q. Do you recall if you ever expressed your
- 17 personal feelings about the investigation to
- 18 Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish?
- 19 A. I don't see where I would have had any problem
- 20 with it.
- 21 Q. Did he ever express to you his personal
- 22 feelings on the investigation?
- 23 A. If he did, I don't recall.
- 24 Q. Now, did there come a time when you learned

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 I have already found. That would lead you to believe
- 2 there was more than there was.
- 3 Q. Okay.
- 4 A. Same one again.
- 5 Q. Colonel, have you finished thumbing through the
- 6 documents?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Instead of questioning you about each of these
- 9 documents, would it be fair to say that, in general,
- 10 when there is a story about the Delaware State Police
- 11 and the Firearms Training Unit in the local
- 12 newspapers, that those stories are brought to your
- 13 attention?
- 14 A. They don't have to be brought to my attention.
- 15 I read the paper every day. I did when I was active
- 16 as well.
- 17 Q. So, by some means, you would come across this
- 18 story and probably read it?
- 19 A. If it was in the State News or the Journal,
- 20 yes
- 21 Q. You can put that document down.
- 22 A. Thank you, sir.
- 23 Q. When there was an article about the FTU in the
- 24 local newspapers, would you talk about the article

- 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
- 1 that Sergeant Foraker and Master Corporals Price and
- 2 Warren had spoken to the state auditor?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. How did you find out about that?
- 5 A. I think I found out about that in the paper as
- 6 well.
- 7 Q. Did you talk to Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish
- 8 about that?
- 9 A. I can't recall an exact conversation, but I
- 10 probably did.
- 11 Q. Colonel, I'd like to put another document in
- 12 front of you. This one was previously marked as
- 13 MacLeish Deposition Exhibit 17.
- 14 A. Thank you.
- 15 Q. You are welcome.
- 16 Now, Colonel, do you have that document in
- 17 front of you?
- 18 A. Yes, I do.
- 19 Q. Could you just thumb through these couple pages
- 20 and tell me if this appears to be an article from The
- 21 State News and then an article from the News Journal?
- 22 A. That's what it appears to be.
- 23 Q. Do you think you have ever seen these articles
- 24 before?

#### Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Document 75-14 Filed 02/02/2006 Page 9 of 33 A. I am sure that I have. 1 their speaking to the auditors? Q. And the first page of this exhibit appears to 2 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that be a front page story from the Delaware State News; 3 question. isn't that right? THE WITNESS: Was I happy? A. Sure does BY MR. NEUBERGER: Q. And are you familiar with this article at all without reading it? A. I wouldn't say I was happy. I wouldn't say I A. I can't remember exactly what it says, no. I

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- mean, I read them all, but I couldn't tell you what it 10 says.

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- 11 Q. Okav.
- 12 A. I see what the headlines say.
- Q. And let me direct your attention to the second 13
- paragraph of this article, the one that begins, "The 14
- troopers made their comments"? 15
- A. Yes, sir. 16
- 17 Q. Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes. sir.
- 19 Q. Does it say, "The troopers made their comments
- 20 Wednesday and prepared statements to investigators
- from the state auditor's office which is probing the 21
- 22 range situation at the behest of Governor Ruthann
- 23 Minner"?
- A. Yes, sir. 24

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Were you unhappy?

so I didn't see a problem with it.

speak to the auditors.

it and reported on it?

Q. Were you angry?

Q. Are you --

A. With regards to them speaking to the auditors?

That was part of the investigation. They needed to

A. Auditors, I would assume the auditors go and

talk to them if they are conducting an investigation,

Q. Were you happy that the media found out about

A. I wasn't excited about it, I can tell you.

A. Yeah. I probably was a little unhappy.

Q. Let's see. Were you displeased by it?

Q. Were you unhappy about that?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- Q. I think you indicated that you learned that my
- clients had spoken to the auditor by way of newspaper 2
- 3 stories?
- A. Might have been by reading this article right
- 5 here.
- Q. It possibly could have been, do you think --
- A. Could have been.
- -- without actually reading it? I am not
- asking you to read it.
- 10 A. Could have been
- Q. Independent of the article, you think you
- 12 learned about it from newspaper stories?
- 13 A. I believe that I did.
- Q. Colonel, you can put the document down, please. 14
- Thank you. 15
- 16 A. Absolutely.
- Q. Do you recall if you talked to anyone on your 17
- 18 executive staff about the fact that Sergeant Foraker
- and Master Corporals Price and Warren had spoken to 19
- the auditor's office? 20
- A. I don't recall an exact conversation, but I am 21
- 22 sure I had a conversation with the lieutenant colonel
- 23 at least.
- 24 Q. Were you happy with the media reports about

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

A. No.

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Q. How about irritated?

A. Yes.

- A. No.
- How about just disgusted in general? Q.
- A. No.
- Q. Now, did you ever talk to Colonel MacLeish
- about how you wanted to discipline Sergeant Foraker as
- well as Master Corporals Price and Warren because they
- had spoken to the auditor?
- 10 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that
- 11 question
- 12 THE WITNESS: To the auditor, no. I don't
- 13 helieve so.
- BY MR. NEUBERGER: 14
- Q. Did you ever talk to Lieutenant Colonel 15
- MacLeish about wanting to discipline Sergeant Foraker 16
- and Master Corporals Price and Warren in general?
- A. Can you help me a little bit more? I don't 18
- remember having a conversation with him, but if you --
- 20 if there is something you are not telling me that
- 21 maybe I should know right now --
- 22 Q. I think the record will reflect that Colonel
- MacLeish testified that he and you had talked about 23
- wanting to discipline the men because the media had

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	8/30/2005 Chaffinen, L. Aaron		•	The Company of the Co
1	reported on their speaking to the auditor.		1	Q. Do you know if anyone else was interviewed by
2	MR. ELLIS: I don't believe that's what		2	the auditor's office from your executive staff?
3	the record is going to show. You can make whatever		3	A. I am sure they were.
4	representation you want, but the witness should		4	Q. Do you know if then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish
5	understand that, you know, that's your recollection of		5	was interviewed by the auditor?
6	something that happened a while ago.		6	A. Sure he was.
7	THE WITNESS: I don't have a recollection,		7	Q. Did he ever talk to you about that?
8	then.		8	A. I am not sure if he did or not. He may have.
9	BY MR. NEUBERGER:		9	I don't recall, you know, if what the conversation
10	Q. So, you just don't recall one way or the other?		10	was if he did, but he probably did.
11	A. Restate the question, please.		11	Q. Would he have had to get your authorization to
12	Q. Did you and Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish talk		12	speak to the auditor because you were the colonel?
13	about wanting to discipline Sergeant Foraker and		13	A. It was a it was an open investigation by the
14	Master Corporals Price and Warren because they had		14	auditor's office, and we, as an agency of the State
15	spoken to the auditor or because the media had		15	Police, were going to cooperate with the auditor's
16	reported on their speaking to the auditor?		16	office for them to complete their investigation. So
17	A. I know that we did not discuss about		17	anybody that was wanting to be that the auditor's
18	disciplining with regards to those officers with		18	office wanted to interview would be interviewed. It's
19	regards to talking with the auditor's office.		19	that simple. So I don't know who all they interviewed
20	l am not sure I can't recall a		20	off the top of my head, but we made sure that they
21	conversation with regards to the media, but according		21	all, you know, that they would be interviewed if the
22	to State Police policy, in order to speak with the		22	auditors wanted to interview them.
23	media, you need to go through the public information		23	Q. So, I think you are indicating that Colonel
24	office. And since I already testified to the fact		24	MacLeish and then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish did
		137		
	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron			8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 that I didn't know about this until I read it in the paper, I would imagine that could have upset me 2 3 somewhat, yes. Q. But do you have a specific recollection today 4
- of whether or not you and Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish 5
- talked about that?
- A. I sure don't.
- Q. Now, did you ever speak to the state auditor's
- office as part of their investigation into the FTU?
- 10 A. I am sure I did.
- Q. Were you interviewed? 11
- A. I think I was. 12
- Q. Were you interviewed in person or by telephone? 13
- A. I think I was interviewed -- I was interviewed 14
- by the auditor's office on numerous occasions about a 15
- lot of different things, not just the range. So, it's 16
- -- it's not all, you know, real clear in my mind as to
- -- I am pretty sure I was interviewed in person, not 18
- 19 on the telephone. My only question would be whether
- or not I was interviewed by myself or whether the 20
- 21 lieutenant colonel was there at the same time. I
- don't know. 22
- I would say -- I would guess, and I 23 shouldn't guess, so I won't say that. 24

- not need to seek your authorization to speak to the
- A. He sure didn't.
- Q. Did you give the auditor's office any
- documents?
- A. Personally, I don't believe I did, no.
- Q. Do you know if anyone --
- A. I am sure ...
- Q. -- other than my clients gave the auditor's
- office documents? 10
- A. I am sure that we did. I mean, I can't tell
- you exactly what we gave them, but I am sure that if 12
- -- they probably requested documents from our H.R., 13
- human resources section, and if they requested them, I 14
- am sure they got them.
- 16 They may have requested documents from the
- lieutenant colonel. I didn't give them any documents
- personally, but I am sure they got documents. I don't
- remember giving them any documents. I am pretty sure 19
- I didn't. 20

18

- Q. Who do you think would know if the State Police 21
- gave documents to the auditors? I think you mentioned 22
- Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish? 23
- A. Yes.

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1	Q. And you mentioned H.R., so that would be
2	Captain John Yeomans?

- 3 A. Yes, it would.
- 4 Q. Can you think of anyone else who I might want
  - to talk to if I could -- who might be able to answer
- 6 that question?
- A. The lieutenant colonel.
- 8 Q. So, those are the only two names that you can
- 9 come up with?
- 10 A. And Captain Yeomans.
- 11 Q. Did you ever see any of the documents that may
- 12 have been given to the auditor by the DSP?
- 13 A. Not that I can recall. I don't believe so.
- 14 Q. Now, let's change gears again.
  - Now, isn't it true that you have never
- 16 liked Kurt Price?
- 17 A. No, it certainly is not.
- 18 Q. Isn't it true you have never liked Wayne
- 19 Warren

15

- 20 A. I played ball with Wayne Warren. Why would I
- 21 not like him?
- 22 Q. You played ball with him?
- 23 A. That's right. I played softball with Wayne
- 24 Warren.

4	Δ	They made		that they	told the	richt	-
1	A.	iney made	e sure	tnat tney	tola the	rignt	persor

- 2 that would come and tell me that, Aaron, we are not
- 3 going to sue Aaron, but then they sued me anyway and
- 4 they sued me individually, so that was upsetting. Why
- 5 would you go about making sure that you get the
- 6 message to me and then go ahead and do it anyway?
- 7 Q. Who is the person who relayed the message?
- 8 A. What difference does it matter?
- 9 Q. You are under oath, Colonel.
- 10 A. Lam?
- 11 Q. You are.
- 12 A. Well, in one case, it's Bruce VonGoeerres, and
- 13 I can't remember the other case. It might be Bruce
- 14 VonGoeerres in the both cases.
- 15 Q. Is he a lieutenant?
- 16 A. He is.
- 17 Q. Now, isn't it true that you bear animosity
- 18 between Kurt and Wayne because they spoke out about
- 19 the issues of the firing range?
- 20 A. No, it's not.
- 21 Q. Isn't it true that you don't like Kurt, Wayne,
- 22 or Chris Foraker because they spoke out about health
- 23 and safety issues specifically at the firing range?
- 24 A. No, it's not true.

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. When?
- 2 A. Mid '80s. Maybe late '80s. Maybe late '80s.
- 3 Q. Isn't it true that you bear ill will towards
- 4 Wayne Warren and Kurt Price?
- 5 A. No. I do not.
- 6 Q. So you deny that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Isn't it true that --
- A. I am not happy that they filed a civil suit,
- 10 but, I mean, I would imagine if somebody came in and
- 11 said, You just got sued, you probably wouldn't be
- 12 happy with whoever sued you. I don't bear no ill will
- 13 with either one of them.
- 14 Q. Isn't it true that you were angry at both of
- 15 them?
- 16 MR. ELLIS: Time frame?
- 17 MR. NEUBERGER: December of 2003.
- 18 THE WITNESS: I don't -- no, I wasn't
- 19 angry with them. I was upset with them.
- 20 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 21 Q. Why were you upset with them?
- 22 A. Well, both of them sent me messages that they
- 23 weren't going to sue me, but then they did.
- 24 Q. And what do you mean, they sent you messages?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. Isn't it true that you don't like that they
- 2 kept speaking out continuously about problems at the
- 3 firing range?
- 4 A. No, it's not true.
- 5 Q. Isn't it true that you didn't like that they
- 6 had spoken out and that bad publicity for the Delaware
- 7 State Police resulted in the Delaware media?
- 8 A. Could you repeat that one?
- 9 (The reporter read back as requested.)
- 10 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
- 11 question.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I believe that it was a
- 13 disruption to agency, so I wouldn't be real happy
- 14 about the fact that there was a disruption to the
- 15 agency, no.
- 16 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 17 Q. What was a disruption to the agency?
- 18 A. The fact that they spoke out and contained, you
- 19 know, became disruptive to the agency because it's in
- 20 the media.
- 21 Q. Would you agree that the disruption to the
- 22 agency is really caused by the problems at the FTU and
- 23 not by their speech about those problems?
- 24 A. Part of it is, yes.

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2

- 1 Q. Now, isn't it true that you were unhappy that
- 2 their speech to the auditor, as well as their speech
- 3 about the conditions at the FTU, caused the State
- 4 Police to get back on the front pages of the Delaware
- 5 State News and the News Journal?
- 6 A. Your questions are very long. I am having a
- 7 little trouble sticking with them.
- 8 Q. I can rephrase it for you.
- 9 A. Thank you.
- 10 Q. Isn't it true that you are unhappy that their
- 11 speech to the auditor got the State Police back on the
- 12 front page of the News Journal and the State News?
- 13 A. There is not a problem with being on the front
- 14 page of the State News and the News Journal as long as
- 15 it's positive for the agency. But when you are
- 16 running an agency, you like for it to be positive as
- 17 opposed to negative. So, I wasn't real happy about
- 18 that, yeah.
- 19 Q. Is that because most of the stories were
- 20 negative about the agency?
- 21 A. Yes, portions of them were.
- 22 Q. And that's something that you weren't happy
- 23 about?
- 24 A. Right.

A.		

- Q. Is that the type of story that you think would
- 3 reflect positively on the agency?
- 4 A. Sure. That's a positive article. There has
- 5 been a lot of positive articles through the year.
- 6 Q. Right. And the stories that were in the local
- 7 newspapers from December of 2003, forward, about the
- 8 Delaware State Police and the FTU, those have been
- 9 primarily negative articles?
- 10 A. I would say that's a fair statement.
- 11 Q. Now, has MacLeish ever talked to you about his
- 12 personal feelings toward Kurt Price and Wayne Warren
- 13 and Chris Foraker?
- 14 A. Not that I can remember.
- 15 Q. Has he ever told you that he bears them ill
- 16 will?
- 17 A. You know, you continue to say "bears ill will."
- 18 I have never heard that in my entire life until today,
- 19 so I wouldn't use "bears ill will." That's something
- 20 I don't say. I don't know that I remember anybody
- 21 else saying it in front of me.
- 22 Q. Then I will try, in the future, in these
  - 3 questions, to maybe bring the language a little closer
- 24 to something you might use.

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. Now, isn't it true that you were unhappy that
- 2 their speech about the conditions at the FTU caused
  - the DSP to be back on the front pages of the two local
- 4 papers?

3

- 5 A. Yeah. I wasn't happy.
- 6 Q. Now, isn't it true that you wanted the State
- 7 Police to get off of the front pages of the local
- 8 newspapers?
- 9 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that
- 10 question.

11

- THE WITNESS: Only from a negative
- 12 standpoint.
- 13 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 14 Q. So, you are telling me that you didn't want
- 15 negative stories about the Delaware State Police to be
- 16 on the front pages of the local papers?
- 7 A. That's correct. I mean, you know, it only
- 18 makes sense that if you are in charge of an agency,
- 19 you would like things to be positive.
- 20 Q. For example, I think back in the spring of '05,
- 21 there was a real nice community interest story about
- 22 Captain Downes, about how he is involved in the
- 23 community with some kind of -- I think it was a
- 24 community policing story?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Has he ever told you that he is pissed off
- 2 at them?
- 3 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that
- 4 question.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Not that I can recall.
- 6 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 7 Q. How about that he is angry at them?
- 8 A. Not that I can recall.
- 9 Q. Did he ever tell you that he really wished that
- 10 they would just shut up?
- 11 A. Not that I can recall.
- 12 Q. Now, have you ever told anyone that Chris
- 13 Foraker is like a bad penny that just won't go away?
- 14 A. No, I have not.
- 15 Q. Have you ever said that about Kurt Price or
- 16 Wayne Warren?
- 17 A. I sure haven't.
- 18 Q. Have you ever told anyone that Chris Foraker is
- 19 a real thorn in your side?
- 20 A. No, I have not.
- 21 Q. Have you ever said something similar to that
- 22 effect about Kurt Price or Wayne Warren?
- 23 A. No, I have not.
- 24 Q. Have you ever told anyone -- I think I asked

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- 1 you this earlier -- have you ever told anyone that
- 2 Chris Foraker is a real pain in the ass?
- 3 A. No, I have not.
- 4 Q. Have you ever told anyone that you think Kurt
- 5 Price or Wayne Warren are a real pain in the ass?
- 6 A. No, I have not.
- 7 Q. Now, in reference to either of those three
- 8 officers, have you ever said that you were going to
- 9 get that SOB?
- 10 A. No. I have not.
- 11 Q. Now, I believe you just told me that you have
- 12 never told anyone those things; correct?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. In your personal opinion, do you think that
- 15 Kurt Price or Wayne Warren or Chris Foraker are a real
- 16 pain in the ass?
- 17 A. No. I don't.
- 18 Q. Do you think that they are just like a bad
- 19 penny that just won't go away?
- 20 A. No. I do not.
- 21 Q. Have you told people in the past that either
- 22 Kurt Price, Wayne Warren, or Chris Foraker are a,
- 23 quote, fucking asshole, close quote?
- 24 A. No. I have not.

- 1 A. Yes. I have heard of it, yes.
  - Q. Are you aware that they are a subset or sub
- 3 department of the Center for Disease Control?
- 4 A. Not really. I didn't know that.
- 5 Q. Are you aware that in April of 2004, they came
- 6 to the State Police and to facilities management and
- 7 offered to analyze the FTU free of charge and
- 8 determine what all of its problems were?
- 9 A. I don't remember knowing anything about that.
- 10 Q. Do you recall that in April of 2004, or
- 11 thereabout, that they came to the DSP and facilities
- 12 management and offered to provide free medical
- 13 analysis and consultation and treatment for all of the
- 14 officers serving at the FTU?
- 15 A. That wasn't shared with me.
- 16 Q. If a national agency came in to make that kind
- 17 of an offer to the DSP, who do you think they would
- 18 contact? Who would be the contact person?
- 19 A. I have no idea. They didn't contact the
- 20 colonel.
- 21 Q. So if someone wasn't going to contact the
- 22 colonel, do you know who they would -- is there like a
- 23 set person who --
- 24 A. I would guess maybe they would contact the

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. Have you ever said that you think those three
- 2 officers are, quote, a dick head, close quote?
- 3 A. No, I have not.
- 4 Q. Have you ever said that you hate those
- 5 officers?
- 6 A. No, I have not.
- 7 Q. Have you ever said that, in reference to those
- 8 three officers, that I am done with this mother
- 9 fucker?
- 10 A. No, I have not.
- 11 Q. So, you have never said anything like that to
- 12 anvone, period; is that your testimony?
- 13 A. That's right.
- 14 Q. So, if someone said that you had said something
- 15 to that effect, would they be lying?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Now, Colonel, do you know what the National
- 18 Institute of Occupational Safety & Health is?
- 19 A. Not for sure.
- 20 Q. How about the acronym NIOSH, does that ring any
- 21 bell for you?
- 22 A. I was going to ask you if that was the same
- 23 one.
- 24 Q. Have you ever heard of that group?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Cabinet Secretary. I don't know. I am only guessing.
- 2 I don't know. I shouldn't quess.
- 3 Q. You shouldn't quess.
- 4 So, is it your testimony that you never
- 5 heard anything about that during that time period?
- 6 A. That's my testimony.
- 7 Q. Did anyone from facilities management ever talk
- 8 to you about that during that time period?
- A. No, sir.
- 10 Q. Did you later hear that they had came back -- I
- 11 guess you retired -- was it April or May of 2005?
- 12 A. May the 5th.
- 13 Q. Did you ever hear that, in early 2005, Master
- 14 Corporal Wayne Warren requested a health hazard
- 15 evaluation from NIOSH of the facility of the FTU?
- 16 A. I was on administrative leave.
- 17 Q. Did you ever hear about that?
- 18 A. No, I did not.
- 19 Q. In light of everything that you have learned
- 20 since December of 2003, do you think that the FTU is a
- 21 safe place to work?
- 22 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that
- 23 question. Do you have a time frame on that?
- 24 MR. NEUBERGER: I gave him a time frame.

#### Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Document 75-14 Filed 02/02/2006 Charfing Page 14 of 33 MR. ELLIS: What? A. Yes. it is. MR. NEUBERGER: I gave him a time frame. 2 Q. And it's subject is NIOSH? MR. ELLIS: You said based on the things A. Yes, it is. he's learned since December of 2003. You didn't say Q. Now, I'd like to direct your attention to the when you were asking the question as -- you didn't third paragraph of this e-mail, and I am going to read specify a time frame as to when it was safe. that to you; okay? MR. NEUBERGER: I will rephrase the A. Sure guestion. Q. Does that say that, "On Tuesday, April 20th, BY MR. NEUBERGER: 2004, I received a call from Dr. Randy Tubbs who told Q. The time frame I am going to give you is from me that Mr. Dovie Tiller had just called him and said 10 10 December of 2003 forward. 11 11 that a, quote, political block, close quote, is now Do you recall that, based on everything preventing him from allowing NIOSH to come in and 13 you have learned during that time frame and since this 13 conduct testing on the air handling system. He said time frame began, that the FTU was a safe place to Mr. Tiller told him that the State Police could give 14 15 15 NIOSH permission to come in and conduct testing, A. Well, when you say "FTU," the Firearms Training however, he could not due to politics." 16 16 17 Unit is -- you must be talking specifically about the 17 Now, did you ever hear anything, while you 18 building. 18 were serving there as the colonel of the State Police. 19 Q. Lam. 19 about politics were preventing NIOSH from coming in to A. If you are talking about the building, then the fix the -- or to evaluate the FTU? 20 20 answer is no, it's not a safe place to work. 21 21 A. No. I did not

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made in the Delaware State Police?

Q. Do politics play a role in decisions that are

A. I wouldn't say on the day-to-day decisions. On

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

Q. It's north of Smyrna? A. That's correct. Clark Farm Road, I think it

something like that?

A. Yes

3 is.

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- 4 Q. Thank you.
- 5 Are you aware that NIOSH has evaluated

Q. The building is on -- It's on Clark Road or

- Æ firing ranges for safety issues in the past for other
- 7 police departments throughout the country?
- R A. No. I am not.
- MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that 9
- 10 question.
- BY MR. NEUBERGER: 11
- 12 Q. Colonel, I'd like to put another document in
- front of you. I believe this was MacLeish Deposition
- Exhibit No. 18.
- Ed, do you have that? 15
- MR. ELLIS: If it's a MacLeish exhibit, I 16
- 17 have it.
- BY MR. NEUBERGER: 18
- 19 Q. Now, Colonel, does this appear to be an e-mail
- from -- I quess it would be Master Corporal Warwick? 20
- 21 A. I am not sure.
- Q. From Corporal Warwick to Captain Greg Warren? 22
- 23
- Q. And is the date April 21st, 2004?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- the big decisions. The cabinet secretary the State
- Police falls under is certainly a political appointee,
- so you can't throw political or politics out, but, you
- know, politics don't dictate whether or not you shoot
- or don't shoot or all different kinds of things
- involved in law enforcement.
- Q. You mentioned politics are involved in the big
- decisions.

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- What would qualify as a big decision?
- 10 A. Who the colonel is going to be.
- Q. Things of that magnitude?
- 12
- So, the position of colonel, the position of
- lieutenant colonel, maybe? 14
- 15
- 16 Q. But you are saying the day-to-day operations,
- 17 politics don't play a role?
- 18 A. Not -- not to the degree that they do what we
- 19 have already discussed.
- Q. So you are saying that they do play somewhat of 20
- 21 a role?
- 22 A. Politics plays a role in everything. I have
- 23 had this conversation with many people. Politics
- plays a role in day-to-day activities of your family.

#### Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Filed 02/02/2006 Page 15 of 33 Document 75-14 I mean, it has nothing to do with the State Police. Q. Right. That would be --So, to a degree, politics is involved in everything. 2 A. Depending on what you are filling -- if you are filling a position, depending on the -- the Q. So, are you saying that politics do play a role in the day-to-day operations of the Delaware State qualifications of the different ones that are -- that Police? you are looking at and the experience and -- there is A. Yes. all kinds of different things that come into play. Q. Do politics play a role in the day-to-day But if everything -- everything else being equal, operations of the Delaware State Police when it comes sure, personal loyalty may -- may kind of tip the to the health and safety of the troopers under your scale, if you will. 10 command? 10 Q. Got you. Okay. A. No. 11 11 Now, did there come a time when you sent Q. Did personal loyalty to you, as colonel, play a 12 12 Chris Foraker, Wayne Warren, and Kurt Price for 13 role in the decisions you made while you were colonel fitness for duty exams? 13 of the State Police? 14 A. Not me. 15 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that 15 Q. Are you saying you did not make that decision? 16 question. A. That's right. The lieutenant colonel made THE WITNESS: You will have to explain 17 those decisions. what you mean by "personal loyalty." Are you Q. Would that be --18 signalling out anyone or -- I mean, I don't know what 19 A. Tom MacLeish. Yeah. He is the colonel now. 20 you are telling me or asking me. 20 Q. Did he talk to you about that decision?

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

Q. When you had to make decisions while you were

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the decision. BY MR. NEUBERGER:

BY MR. NEUBERGER:

A. Thank you.

Q. I will rephrase it.

1	colonel of the Delaware State Police, is one of the
2	factors that you considered whether the person you are
3	making the decision about had been personally loyal to
4	you as an individual?
5	A. Well, you see, when you are a superintendent of
6	the State Police, you make decisions about all kinds
7	of things.
8	Q. Okay.
9	A. Everything is not personnel issues. There is
10	all kinds of things that you make decisions about
11	daily.
12	If you are talking about putting someone
13	in a high position or something like that, any person
14	certainly would properly lean towards somebody who has
15	been loyal to them as opposed to somebody who has been
16	disloyal. That's just common sense.
17	Q. So, is that a factor that you would consider
18	when making personnel decisions, if we can narrow that
19	focus?
20	MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
21	question.
22	THE WITNESS: That would be one part of

	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron
1	25th of '05, I wasn't working, so I wasn't kept
2	up-to-date.
3	Q. We will focus on the time period from April of
4	2004 through September of 2004.
5	A. Okay. Yes, sir.
6	Q. Are you aware that, during that time frame, my
7	clients were sent for fitness for duty exams?
8	A. I am aware that they were sent, but as far as
9	the time frame, I am not real, you know, I am not real
10	I have no idea exactly when it was.
11	Q. But at some point during you are aware that
12	they were sent?
13	A. I am aware that they were sent. I couldn't
14	even tell you if it was during that time frame that
15	you just enumerated.
16	Q. Do you know why they were sent for fitness for
17	duty exams?
18	A. Not exactly. I don't know all the, you know,
19	the details.
20	Q. I think you indicated
21	A. I know that decision was made.
22	Q. And you indicated that then Lieutenant Colonel
23	MacLeish made that decision?

A. That's right. See, the lieutenant colonel's

A. He just told me that they are going to be sent.

is because there is like five months when I wasn't

even working. From October 27th of '04, until March

But now we need probably to know what the time frame

# Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Document 75-14 Filed 02/02/2006 Page 16 of 33

- 1 position, the range -- the training, personnel,
- 2 discipline all comes under the deputy superintendent,
- 3 50 --
- 4 Q. Did he have to run that decision by you?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Did he run that decision by you?
- 7 A. He just let me know about it.
- 8 Q. Did you have the authority to say, No, don't do
- 9 that?
- 10 A. Sure.
- 11 Q. Did you tell him, No, don't do that?
- 12 A. No. I did not. And I didn't know all the
- 13 particulars that he knew. I wasn't -- I wouldn't do
- 14 that without knowing what's going on.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. I have no reason to believe that he wasn't
- 17 making the right decision. If I had had a reason to
- 18 believe he wasn't making the right decision, maybe I
- 19 would have looked into it farther, but I have no
- 20 reason to believe that. He was working with human
- 21 resources and whoever else was involved in it.
- 22 Q. And are you indicating that you don't know why
- 23 he made that decision?
- 24 A. Right. I don't know all the particulars.

- 1 Q. Do you know why Sergeant Foraker was sent for
- 2 three fitness for duty exams?
- 3 A. No. I do not.
- 4 Q. Now, did there come a time when you put Kurt
- 5 Price and Wayne Warren or light duty?
- 6 A. Lieutenant colonel did.
  - Q. So, you are telling me that you did not make
- 8 that decision?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. Were you involved in that process at all?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. As colonel, did Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish run
- 13 that decision by you?
- 14 A. He may have run it by me after the fact.
- 15 Q. So, you are telling me --
- 16 A. I am sure he was working hand-in-hand with
- 17 human resources and Captain Yeomans.
- 18 Q. So you are indicating to me that he only ran it
- 19 by you after the fact?
- 20 A. Yes. And that -- and I am not sure of that
- 21 because it depends on when that was.
- 22 Q. So, he could have run it by you before he did
- 23 it; you just don't remember?
- 24 A. No. I am saying when this occurred, depending

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- 1 Q. Do you know if Wayne Warren and Kurt Price
- 2 passed their fitness for duty exams?
- 3 A. No, I don't.
- 4 Q. Do you know if Chris Foraker passed his fitness
- 5 for duty exam?
- 6 A. I am thinking I remember that he did, but I am
- 7 not 100 percent sure. I think he did.
- 8 Q. Do you know that Chris Foraker was sent for a
- 9 second opinion on his fitness for duty exam?
- 10 A. i do now.
- 11 Q. Did you know it then?
- 12 A. I am not sure. Another thing was the time
- 13 period.
- 14 Q. So, today, the end of August, 2005, are you
- 15 aware of the fact that Chris Foraker was sent for
- 16 three fitness for duty exams?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Do you think that's normal to send an officer
- 19 for three fitness for duty exams?
- 20 A. I have no reason to -- to believe it's normal
- 21 or abnormal. I don't know.
- 22 Q. Have you ever been sent for three consecutive
- 23 fitness for duty exams?
- 24 A. No. I have never been sent for one.

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- 1 on what date that was, because, like I said, I wasn't
- 2 there a lot --
- 3 Q. I will represent to you that Kurt Price and
- 4 Wayne Warren were put on light duty on June 18th of
- 5 2004.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. So, focus around that time --
- B A. Thank you.
- 9 Q. -- time frame
- 10 A. Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. Do you know if Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish ran
- 12 that decision by you before --
- 13 A. No. He told me that -- that that had occurred.
- 14 Q. So he told you after the fact?
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. He did not tell you before the fact?
- 17 A. No
- 18 Q. So, when you found out about it after the fact,
- 19 did you say, That's the wrong decision?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Did you say, You made a mistake, Tom MacLeish?
- 22 A. I sure didn't.
- 23 Q. Did you think he had made the right decision?
- 24 A. I had no reason to believe anything different

	Case 1:04-cy-01207-GMS	Document 75-14	Filed 02/02/2006 Page 17 of 33
1	from that.	1	A. March 24th.
2	Q. As the colonel of the State Police, you had the	2	Q. Of 2005?
3	authority to overrule that decision if you wanted to;	3	A. Mm-hmm.
4	isn't that right?	4	Q. And then you were on full duty until May 5th of
5	A. Sure.	5	2005?
6	Q. Because you are the colonel and you can you	6	A. Yes.
7	are the ultimate, I guess, decision maker in the State	7	Q. So, is it your testimony that during that time
8	Police; would that be fair to say?	8	period, Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish never told you
9	MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that	9	about his order to Kurt Price and Wayne Warren to
10	question.	10	separate from the division?
11	THE WITNESS: The ultimate decision maker?	11	A. I don't remember him telling me that, and
12	I have never actually heard it said that way before,	12	during those six weeks or so that I was back, I was
13	but	13	out of state two different weeks.
14	BY MR. NEUBERGER:	14	Q. So, you are telling me that you had no
15	Q. How would you phrase it?	15	involvement in that process?
16	A. I am the superintendent of the State Police.	16	A. That's correct.
17	Q. And inherent in that position, you are the	17	Q. Now, Colonel, did you ever become aware of
18	you have the final say on	18	Sergeant Foraker being thrown out of the commanders
19	A. A lot of things.	19	and section chief meetings by then Lieutenant Colonel
20	Q. And would whether someone goes on light duty	be 20	MacLeish?
21	one of those things?	21	A. Could you restate the first part of that?
22	A. Not necessarily because the way it's set up,	22	Q. Did you ever find out that Sergeant Foraker was

by then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

1 discipline, all personnel issues, and all training issues come under the lieutenant colonel. 2 3 Q. Are you aware that in the spring of 2005, Kurt Price and Wayne Warren were ordered to separate from the division? A. No, I am not. Q. Are you telling me that you knew nothing about A. The spring -- when in the spring? Do you know?

the lieutenant colonel, that comes under the

lieutenant colonel's purview, just, like I said, all

A. I was retired. 11 Q. Did you hear about that before you retired? 12

Q. May 12th of 2005.

13 A. No.

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Q. I think you said you retired on May 5th of 14

2005? 15

A. Mm-hmm. 16

Q. So, was that decision run by you prior to your 17

18 retirement?

A. No. 19

20 Q. Did then Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish talk to

21 you about it prior to your retirement?

22 A. No.

23 Q. I believe you were back on full duty in the end

of March? 24

8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

thrown out of a commanders and section chiefs meeting

1 A. I saw the lieutenant colonel -- I was at that meeting. I saw the lieutenant colonel go over to 2 Sergeant Foraker and talk to Sergeant Foraker, and

then I saw Sergeant Foraker get up and leave the room.

Q. Were you --

A. And subsequently -- I wasn't a part of it until

after the fact when the lieutenant colonel came and

23

24

Q. Was Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish acting at your

10 direction?

A. No. 11

Q. Did you tell Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish to get 12

Sergeant Foraker out of the room? 13

14 A. No. I did not.

Q. What did Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish say to you 15

when he came back after Sergeant Foraker left the 16

17 room?

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18 A. Well, I think I probably asked him, Why is

Sergeant Foraker here?, because we didn't have

20 sergeants come to the commanders meeting, and he said

21 he took care of it or whatever. But I hadn't had any

22 conversation prior to the lieutenant colonel going

23 over and talking to him.

24 Q. Are you aware that Sergeant Foraker's job

> A - 311 168

#### Filed 02/02/2006 Page 18 of 33 Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS Document 75-14 responsibilities at the FTU have been decreased since speaking about? he was reinstated there in December of 2003? 2 BY MR. NEUBERGER: MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form of the 3 Q. Any commanders that you are aware of, Colonel? A. No. No. THE WITNESS: No, I am not aware, and I Q. Are you aware that when Sergeant Ashley was the don't believe that they have. NCOIC of the FTU, that he was given greater autonomy BY MR. NEUBERGER: when making financial decisions than Sergeant Foraker Q. Is that something which you think you would has had since he was reinstated beginning in December normally be aware of if something like that were to of 2003? occur? 10 MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form. A. Yes. 11 THE WITNESS: No, I am not aware of any of Q. And you are indicating that you did not order

that and that that did not happen, period? 13 A. I am saying that I was not aware of the fact 14 15 that they have been diminished. No, I did not order

it. And if they were diminished, I am not aware of

17 it.

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18 Q. So, you are indicating that it's possible that

19 it could have happened but you just have no personal

20 knowledge one way or the other?

21 A. I have no knowledge one way or the other. I

don't believe that it did, but I have no knowledge of 22

it one way or the other. 23

Q. Are you aware that beginning in December of

12 that

BY MR. NEUBERGER: 13

14 Q. Are you aware that Sergeant Ashley was allowed

15 to bypass the chain of command when it came to

particular issues, such as fixing the bullet trap?

MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form of that 17

18 question.

19 THE WITNESS: No, I am not aware of it

20 RY MR. NEURERGER:

21 Q. Did Sergeant Ashley come and update you on his

efforts while he was NCOIC of the FTU to fix the 22

23 hullet tran?

24 A. No, sir, he did not,

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2003. Sergeant Foraker was deprived of the required fifth full time firearms instructor he needed to

safely operate the FTU? 3

MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that

question.

THE WITNESS: No, I am not.

BY MR. NEUBERGER:

Q. Since Sergeant Foraker's return to the FTU in

December of 2003, did you ever order any of his

10 commanders to sit on him and hassle him in the

fulfillment of his duties? 11

A. I sure didn't. 12

Q. Did you ever become aware that that was 13

14 occurring?

A. His commanders were sitting on him? 15

Q. I will rephrase the question. I think you are

indicating that you don't understand it or that it's a

little unclear. 18

19 A. I have never heard anybody sitting on somebody.

20 Q. Did you ever become aware that his commanders

21 were hassling him and nitpicking him in the

22 performance of his duties?

MR. ELLIS: What commanders? 23

THE WITNESS: What commanders are you 24

8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

Q. He didn't come to headquarters and speak to you

once a week?

A. No. he did not.

Q. Is Sergeant Ashley a friend of yours?

A. Not really. He happened to work at the same

Q. What troop was that?

A. Troop 5.

Q. And that's Bridgeville?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Colonel, would it be fair to say that the State

12 Police has been in the paper a lot over the last

several vears? 13

MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form of that 14

15

16 THE WITNESS: I guess so.

BY MR. NEUBERGER:

Q. Would it be fair to say that they have been --18

that the State Police has been in the paper a lot in a

20 negative way over the past several years?

21 MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form of that

22 question.

THE WITNESS: I think so. 23

BY MR. NEURERGER 24

	Case 1:04-cv-01207-GMS	Document 75-14	Filed 02/02/2006 Page 19 of 33
1	Q. For example, there was media coverage of the	1	Q. Do you have a preference as to whether Delaware
2	jury verdict in June of 2003, arising from Sergeant	2	State troopers raise issues internally or externally
3	Foraker's lawsuit against you; isn't that right?	3	by filing lawsuits?
4	A. Yes, there was.	4	MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of that
5	Q. And there was media coverage arising out of a	5	question.
6	separate trial in January of 2004; isn't that right?	6	THE WITNESS: Sure, I have a preference.
7	A. Yes, there was.	7	BY MR. NEUBERGER:
8	Q. And then you have been sued individually and	8	Q. What is your preference?
9	personally by a lot of either troopers or other	9	A. I would rather them try to take care of it
10	Delaware State Police employees and those suits have	e 10	in-house first.
11	received media coverage; isn't that right?	11	Q. Would it be fair to say that you don't like it
12	MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form.	12	when troopers sue the agency?
13	THE WITNESS: I don't know if you would	13	A. That would be like yeah, I don't like it
14	say "a lot," but there has been some.	14	when people sue the agency. I don't like that.
15	BY MR. NEUBERGER:	15	MR. NEUBERGER: I think this is a good
16	Q. More than two?	16	spot for a break.
17	A. More than two is a lot?	17	(Recess taken.)
18	Q. How about more than three?	18	BY MR. NEUBERGER:
19	A. More than three is not a lot either.	19	Q. Colonel, we talked a little bit before about
20	Q. How about more than four?	20	the first media tour you gave of the FTU.
21	A. Okay. There has been more than four.	21	Do you recall testifying about that at
22	Q. How about more than five?	22	some length?
23	A. Are we going to stop any time soon? It's kind	23	A. That I gave?

Q. The first media tour that you attended?

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1 Q. It depends what your answer is to this more
2 than five question?
3 A. What was the timetable again?
4 Q. April of 2002 to the present?
5 A. Yes, more than five.

7 various Internal Affairs investigations and

8 investigations by outside investigatory age

B investigations by outside investigatory agencies into

Q. And there has been a lot of media coverage of

either you and/or Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish during

10 that same time period; isn't that correct?

11 MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form.

12 THE WITNESS: A lot of internal

13 investigations.

24

of childish.

14 BY MR. NEUBERGER:

15 Q. Media coverage of Internal Affairs

16 investigations?

17 A. I am trying to think -- two.

18 Q. So, there has been media coverage of those

19 investigations?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And would it be fair to say that you don't like

22 this negative publicity?

23 A. As I answered a few times before, yeah, nobody

24 would like negative publicity.

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1 A. Yes, we did talk about that.
2 Q. And I'd like to focus and ask you some

questions about some things that happened immediately

before the tour and some things that happened
 immediately after the tour, just so you have some

6 focus in your own mind of where your questions are

7 going to be going.

8 A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, the day of the first tour, you went to

10 headquarters before you went to the FTU on Clark Farm

11 Road?

24

12 A. I am sure I did, yes.

13 Q. And while you were at headquarters, before you

14 left for the tour, you went down to the traffic

15 section, didn't you?

16 A. I don't know. Maybe I did.

Q. Are you indicating that you just are not sure;

18 you just don't remember?

19 A. I don't remember.

20 Q. Well, I am going to try to jog your memory a

21 little bit.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Do you recall if you went down into the traffic

24 section and talked to Captain Glen Dixon?

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- 1 A. Do you know the date of this?
- 2 Q. This would have been about April 6th of 2004.
- 3 He may have been a lieutenant. I am not exactly sure
- 4 when he was promoted.
- 5 A. He was a captain in April of '04, but he
- 6 wouldn't have been in the traffic section unless he
- 7 just accidently stopped up there because September of
- 8 '03, he went to be a troop commander at Troop 5 in
- 9 Bridgeville.
- 10 Q. Is that your home troop?
- 11 A. Yes, it is.
- 12 Q. So, on April 6th of 2004, do you recall whether
- 13 you went down to the traffic section and talked with
- 14 Captain Glen Dixon?
- 15 A. No, I don't, because I don't think he would be
- 16 there
- 17 Q. Do you recall if on April 6th of 2004, before
- 18 you went on the media tour, did you go down to the
- 19 traffic section and talk with Captain Barbara Conley?
- 20 A. I may have, but I don't remember it.
- 21 Q. I will keep trying to jog your memory.
- 22 A. All right.
- 23 Q. In conversations with Captain Conley and
- 24 Captain Dixon in the traffic section, did you say that

- 1 Q. So you deny that statement?
  - A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Do you recall that conversation?
- 4 A. No, I do not
- 5 Q. But you deny that statement anyway?
- 6 A. I don't recall the conversation, and I deny
- 7 what you are saying.
- 8 Q. So, you are denying that you ever said that?
- 9 A. That's right.
- 10 Q. Even though you are testifying you don't
- 11 remember having that conversation?
- 12 A. That's right. I never had that conversation.
- 13 Q. So now you are -- it's not that you don't
- 14 remember it, it's that you deny it ever occurred?
- 15 A. I never had that conversation.
- 16 Q. Did you ever have a similar conversation?
- 17 A. Not that I know of.
- 18 Q. During that same conversation with Captain
- 19 Conley and Captain Dixon in the traffic section, did
- 20 you say, quote, I am going to stick it up their ass,
- 21 closed quote?
- 22 A. No. I did not, and it seems strange to me that
- 23 Captain Conley and Captain Dixon would be in the
- 24 traffic section because you only have one captain in

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 you were getting ready to go to the FTU to, quote,
- 2 stick it to Chris Foraker and Greg Warren?
- 3 A. No, I did not.
- 4 Q. So you deny that?
- 5 A. That's exactly right, I deny that.
- 6 Q. I thought you said you didn't remember whether
- 7 you had said that or not?
- 8 A. No. I didn't remember whether I went to the
- 9 traffic section or not. I know very well I didn't say
- 10 that.
- 11 Q. And how do you know that if you are not sure
- 12 you even had the conversation in the first place?
- 13 A. Because I never have said that.
- 14 Q. So you deny that you have ever said that you
- 15 were going -- you were getting ready to go to the FTU
- 16 to, quote, stick it to Chris Foraker and Greg Warren?
- 17 A. That's correct, I deny that.
- 18 Q. And if Captain Conley and Captain Dixon testify
- 19 otherwise, would they be lying?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. During those same conversations with Captain
- 22 Conley and Captain Dixon, did you say, quote, I am
- 23 going to show them what I am all about, closed quote?
- 24 A. No. I did not.

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 the traffic section, and in April of '04, when you
- 2 said this occurred, he was no longer in the traffic
- 3 section.
- 4 Q. Okay
- 5 A. So now you continue to tell me things that I
- 6 have supposedly said when two captains have never been
- 7 in the traffic section at the same time.
- 8 Q. I thought you said a few minutes ago that maybe
- 9 Captain Dixon could have been just stopping by to pick
- 10 something up?
- 11 A. Well, he may have.
- 12 Q. For example, you go down to Captain Dixon's
- 13 office in Troop 5 all the time just to chat, don't
- 14 you?

- 15 A. No
- 16 Q. Do you deny that you went down to Captain
- 17 Dixon's office all the time to chat while you were on
- 18 administrative leave?
- 19 A. Yes. I do deny that.
- 20 Q. Do you deny you spent a lot of your time down
- 21 at Troop 5 talking in the presence of Captain Dixon
- 22 and Lieutenant Rust and Lieutenant, I think, Brown?
- 23 A. All the time? I just stopped there all the
- 24 time; is that what you are saying?

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- 1
  - 2 2 A. I was in there three or four times during the
  - the media tour? time that I was on administrative leave, but in five
  - months, I don't think three or four times is all the
- time.
- A. I was in Florida a lot of that time.
- Q. At your vacation home down there?

Q. Okav.

- Q. So, I think you are telling me that -- and I 10
- apologize I am still a little unclear on this -- are
- 12 you telling me that this conversation with Captain
- Dixon and Captain Conley never occurred or that you 13
- 14 don't remember it occurring?
- A. I am telling you that with regards to what you 15
- are saying was in the conversation never occurred. 16
- Q. But do vou remember --17
- A. I don't know if a conversation occurred or not.
- I may have gone down there and he may have stopped in 19
- and I may have talked to him, but I didn't go down 20
- 21 there before I went up to the firing range for the
- 22 first meeting because I knew Gloria Homer was going to
- 23 be up there and tell all these things that you are
- saying that I have said. 24

- Q. Do you recall being very happy, animated, and
- excited about what you had just done at the FTU during
- A. No, I do not.
- Q. Do you recall saying that you had just done a
- great thing?
- A. No, I do not.
- Q. Do you recall bragging about what you had just
- 10 A. No. I do not.
- Q. Do you recall being very proud of yourself for 11
- 12 what you had just done?
- A. No. I do not. 13
- Q. Do you recall expressing that verbal --
- 15 A. No. I do not.
- Q. Do you recall saying that you really, quote,
- 17 put it on them, close quote?
- 18 A. No. I do not.
- Q. Do you recall saying that you really, quote, 19
- 20 took it to him, close quote?
- 21 A. No. I do not.
- Q. Do you deny saying those things? 22
- 23 Yes.
- 24 Q. Do you think you had a conversation with

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- Q. So, you are denying that you said these things?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. But you are saying that you very well may have
- gone down there to talk to someone?
- A. I may have. 5
- Q. Now, I'd like to focus your attention on after
- you returned from the tour of the firing range that
- same dav.
- A. Okay
- Q. When you returned to the headquarters, did you 10
- 11 go back down to the traffic section?
- A. I don't remember that I did. 12
- Q. Do you think it is a -- is it possible or you 13
- just don't remember one way or the other? 14
- A. I don't think it's even possible. 15
- Q. So it's impossible that you went down to the 16
- traffic section after you returned to headquarters 17
- 18 that day?
- A. I never went down after I returned. I am not
- even sure if I went back to headquarters. 20
- Q. Do you recall having a conversation with 21
- Captain Conley and/or Captain Dixon after you returned 22
- to headquarters? 23
- A. No, I do not. 24

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Captain Conley or Captain Dixon about these things
- that day and just that you didn't say these things or
- just that the conversation never occurred?
- A. The conversation never occurred.
- Q. Are you telling me it's out of the ordinary for
- you to have talked to Captain Dixon or Captain Conley
- during that time frame?
- A. They both wouldn't have been down there during
- that time frame.
- 10 Q. How about one of them?
- A. One of them may have been. 11
- Q. For example, Captain Conley, I believe, is the 12
- director of traffic and was the director of traffic 13
- 14 during that time frame?
- A. Yes, she was, and yes, she is. 15
- Q. So she could have been there? 16
- A. She could have been.
- Q. And are you saying that you normally wouldn't 18
- have talked to her? 19

- 20 A. I talked to her on occasion, but I can't
- imagine if I talked to her before I went, then I lust 21
- run right down there as soon as I got back down from 22
- the range to talk to her some more. I mean, usually when I went down there, I had something on my mind to 24

- 1 talk to her about with regards to traffic.
- 2 Q. Still focusing on the time period after you
- 3 returned from the media tour of the FTU or -- are we
- 4 on the same page with that part, at least?
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. Did you go and talk to Major David Baylor, I am
- 7 sorry, now retired David Baylor?
- 8 A. I saw David Baylor upstairs, yes. He was a
- 9 major and he worked up in the executive staff.
- 10 Q. Did you go and tell Major Baylor that, quote, I
- 11 got my shots in, people who live in glass houses
- 12 shouldn't throw stones; the mess at the range is all
- 13 Foraker's fault: I got him back, close quote?
- 14 A. No. I did not. I said that I said, "People in
- 15 glass houses shouldn't throw stones," just exactly
- 16 what I testified to earlier. The other parts, I did
- 17 not say.
- 18 Q. I believe you testified earlier that you made
- 19 statements to --
- 20 A. Tom Eldred.
- 21 Q. Of the Delaware State News?
- 22 A. That's right.
- 23 Q. Are you telling me that you made those same
- 24 exact statements to now retired Major David Baylor?

- 1 Q. And you deny saying to him that, quote, I got
- 2 my shots in, close quote?
- 3 A. I deny that, yes.
- 4 Q. So, if his memory is different than your
- 5 memory, you think he would be lying?
- 6 A. He just doesn't remember the conversation like
- 7 it happened.
- B Q. But you remembered that particular
- 9 conversation?
- 10 A. I sure do.
- 11 Q. You don't remember the conversation with
- 12 Captain Conley or Captain Dixon?
- 13 A. I sure don't.
- 14 Q. But you remember the conversation with Major
- 15 Baylor?
- 16 A. That's correct
- 17 Q. And Major Baylor was a member of your executive
- 18 staff, was he not?
- 19 A. Yes, he was.
- 20 Q. For example, he was the second person promoted
- 21 after you became colonel; isn't that right?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And you promoted Tom Marcin to lieutenant
- 24 colonel and then you promoted Dave Baylor to major?

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 A. I told David Baylor what I had told Tom Eldred.
- 2 Q. And just so we are clear, what exactly did you
- 3 tell Major David Baylor?
- 4 A. "People in glass houses shouldn't throw
- 5 stones.
- 6 Q. And is that all that you said to him?
- 7 A. And he asked me who I was talking about, just
- 8 like Tom Eldred did, and I -- I said I was talking
- 9 about Greg Warren.
- 10 Q. So you denied telling him that the mess at the
- 11 range is all Foraker's fault?
- 12 A. No, I never said that.
- 13 Q. You deny telling Major David Baylor that,
- 14 quote, I got him back?
- 15 A. I did not say that.
- 16 Q. So, you deny saying those things to Major David
- 17 Baylor that day?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. But you do admit you had a conversation with
- 20 him?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. And you admit you said to him that people who
- 23 live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones?
- 24 A. That's correct.

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 A. That's correct.
- Q. Was the Baylor conversation that was -- did you
- say it was on the second floor of the headquarters
- 4 building?
- 5 A. Mm-hmm
- 6 Q. After you returned from the firing range tour
- 7 that day, did you talk to Lieutenant Colonel MacLeish
- 8 about the tour?
- 9 A. Probably did. I don't know if I did that same
- 10 day or not.
- 11 Q. Do you recall what you said to him?
- 12 A. No. I probably explained to him who all was
- 13 there and some of the things that I remembered that,
- 14 you know, Gloria Homer said and stuff like that.
- 15 Q. Do you think you talked to -- would Randall
- 16 Hughes have been a major at that point, or would he
- 17 still have been a captain? This would be April of
- 18 2004
- 19 A. He would have been a captain.
- 20 Q. Who were the other members of the executive
- 21 staff at that point; do you recall? It was Major
- 22 Baylor, Major Seaford, Major Papili?
- 23 A. This is April of '04?
- 4 Q. Yes, sir.

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- 1 A. No. Major Hughes -- he would be a major.
- 2 Q. Do you think you talked to Major Hughes after
- 3 you returned from the media tour of the FTU?
- 4 A. I don't know if I did or not. Very seldom is
- 5 everybody up there in headquarters in the staff
- 6 because, you know, they are all over everywhere doing
- 7 their duties with whatever they have that day. So, it
- 8 would have been -- if all of them were there, I would
- 9 hardly believe it, you know what I mean? I don't
- 10 remember -- I remember talking to Dave Baylor. That's
- 11 the only one I remember talking to that day.
- 12 Q. Okav.
- 13 A. If Tom MacLeish would have been there, he would
- 14 have gone with me, so he wasn't there, so I don't know
- 15 when he returned. So I am not sure if I talked with
- 16 him that day or whether I talked to him the next day.
- 17 Q. Do you think you talked to him the next day?
- 18 Is it possible you talked to him one of those days?
- 19 A. Yes
- 20 Q. Do you recall what you said to him?
- 21 A. No. I just probably explained to him what
- 22 occurred at the range and, you know, how it all went
- 23 down, who all was there, and that kind of stuff.
- 24 MR. ELLIS: Are you guessing?

- 1 A. He is a senator in the state of Delaware.
  - Q. And is your friend?
- 3 A. Yes.

2

- 4 Q. Is he your close friend?
- 5 A. Yes
- 6 Q. Would it be fair to say he is your political
- 7 protector or your political patron?
- 8 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: He is not my political
- 10 protector.
- 11 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 12 Q. Is he your political patron?
- 13 MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I am his constituent.
- 15 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 16 Q. Has he ever told you that he would take care of
- 17 you no matter what?
- 18 A No.
- 19 Q. That he will protect you no matter what?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Do you know if he was the reason that the state
- 22 of Delaware decided to pay the money to settle Chris
- 23 Foraker's first suit even though the state of Delaware
- 24 said that state law could not pay that?

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 2 Q. Colonel, it's very important, I don't want you
- 3 to guess. I have said that repeatedly.
- 4 A. I don't remember when I talked to Tom MacLeish.
- 5 Q. That's helpful and I appreciate that answer.
- Have you ever talked to Representative
   Peter Schwartzkoff about Chris Foraker?
- 8 A. I don't recall.
- 9 Q. Did you ever talk to him about Master Corporals
- 10 Wayne Warren and Kurt Price since December of '03?
  - A. I don't recall.
- 12 Q. Do you think it's possible that you did?
- 13 A. I don't think so. I don't have any knowledge
- 14 of it.

11

- 15 Q. Did you ever talk to Senator Thurman Adams
- 16 about Sergeant Chris Foraker?
- 17 A. No, I have not.
- 18 Q. Have you ever talked to Senator Thurman Adams
- 19 about Master Corporals Price or Warren?
- 20 A. No, I have not.
- 21 Q. So you deny ever speaking to those -- to that
- 22 gentleman about my clients?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 Q. And who is Thurman Adams?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 MR. ELLIS: Objection to the form.
- 2 THE WITNESS: I don't have a clue what you
- 3 are talking about.
- 4 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 5 Q. Are you saying you don't understand the
- 6 question?
- 7 A. Yeah. I understand the question.
- 8 Q. And you are saying --
- 9 A. That's the first time I have ever heard that in
- 10 my life.
- 11 Q. So you are saying that you don't know?
- 12 A. That's right. I don't know. There was a
- 13 settlement in the Foraker case. And once there was a
- 14 settlement in the Foraker case, the punitive damages
- 15 were no longer a part of the settlement. So, I mean,
- 16 that doesn't go together, I don't believe.
- 17 Q. You are answering no to the question? You said
- 18 you just don't know?
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 Q. Is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. The reference to the jury verdict in Sergeant
- 23 Foraker's first suit. did Senator Adams ever say to
- 24 you that you would not have to pay the money out of

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	Case 1.8/30/2005 Chaffinen, L. Aaron VIS	Document 75-14	Filed 02/02/8/30/2005 Chaffinch, 9. Aaron 401 33
1	your own pocket?	1	A. Did I tell him?
2	A. I don't believe so.	2	Q. That the Thurminator was going to blast
3	Q. You are not sure?	3	Mitchell because Mitchell was trying to stop you from
4	A. I don't remember him saying that.	4	being you, or something to that effect?
5	Q. Is it possible that he could have said it and	5	A. I don't understand that question. You are
6	you just don't remember?	6	asking me about something I told Dave Mitchell about
7	A. I wouldn't think so, but I guess there is a	7	blasting Dave Mitchell.
8	possibility it could have happened.	8	Q. Did you ever tell Secretary Mitchell that the
9	Q. Do you brag about your association with Senator	9	Thurminator was going to protect you?
10	Thurman Adams?	10	A. No, I did not.
11	A. He is just a close friend of mine. I mean, why	11	Q. Have you ever told any of your friends or
12	would I brag about it? I got a lot of close friends.	12	coworkers that the Thurminator was going to blast
13	Q. So, are you saying that you do not brag about	13	Mitchell because Mitchell was coming down hard on you?
14	your association with Senator Thurman Adams?	14	A. You are going to have to give me more than
15	A. I wouldn't call it bragging. I am proud that I	15	that. I don't know I don't know what you are
16	know him and I am proud that we are friends. He has	16	talking about.
17	been good to me and I have been good to him and his	17	Q. So, you are denying that ever occurred?
18	family. That's as far as it goes.	18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Throughout your career, have you bragged in	19	Q. Have you ever told any friends or coworkers
20	front of other officers that it doesn't matter what	20	that the Thurminator was going to tell Mitchell to
21	you do because Senator Adams will protect you?	21	back the F off because Mitchell was pressuring you?
22	A. No.	22	A. No, I have not.

24 A. That's right.

23

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# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

Q. Do you refer to Thurman Adams as Uncle Thurman?

- 1 Q. Do you refer to Senator Adams as the
- 2 Thurminator?

A. No.

3 A. No.

23

24

- 4 Q. Do you refer to Senator Adams as big daddy?
- 5 A. No. That's his grandson.
- 6 Q. I am sorry?
- 7 A. His grandson's nickname is big daddy, and his
- 8 grandson and my son grew up together, so some of your
- 9 information is not together.
- 10 Q. Now, do you remember that there came a time
- 11 when Major Dave Baylor retired?
- 12 A. Yes, I remember that.
- 13 Q. Was that towards the end of August of 2004?
- 14 A. I believe you are correct.
- 15 Q. Did he have a retirement party around that
- 16 time?
- 17 A. Yes, he did.
- 18 Q. Now, prior to the retirement party, did you
- 19 tell Cabinet Secretary David Mitchell that the
- 20 Thurminator was going to blast Mitchell because
- 21 Mitchell was trying to stop you from doing your thing,
- 22 or something to that effect?
- 23 A. Did I tell who?
- 24 Q. Cabinet Secretary David Mitchell?

# 8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron

- 1 Q. Now, Colonel, to change gears again, do you
- 2 know of a restaurant called Sambos?

Q. So you deny that?

- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And is that located in Leipsic Delaware?
- 5 A. Leipsic.
- 6 Q. Leipsic?
- 7 A. Mm-hmm.
- 8 Q. is that a popular place?
- 9 A. I don't know. I have been there about maybe
- 10 three times in my life.
- 11 Q. Is that -- I am sorry. Go ahead.
- 12 A. It has good seafood.
- 13 Q. Do you know if Delaware state troopers eat
- 14 there very often?
- 15 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
- 16 question.
- 17 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.
- 18 BY MR. NEUBERGER:
- 19 Q. Do you know if the DSP executive staff, while
- 20 you were colonel, would take visiting out of state
- 21 police officers there to eat?
- 22 A. We did on one occasion, I remember.
- 23 Q. And are you telling me that that only happened
- 24 on one occasion?

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	6/30/2005 Chaminen, L. Aaron			6/30/2005 Chammen,	Maron
ı	A. While I was colonel?		1	INDEX TO TESTIMONY	
2	Q. Yeah.		2		
3	A. It may have happened more than once, but I		3	L. AARON CHAFFINCH	PAGE
ı	remember being there once with out of state people.			Examination by Mr. Neuberger	2
5	If, in fact, they went another time, the human		4	••••	
3	resource section took them there, I didn't. I only		5	••••	
7	remember going one time. It was when we had officers		6	INDEX TO EXHIBITS	
3	here from other states involved in our promotional		7	PAGE	
)	process with the interviews.		8	PAGE	
0	Q. That's like the oral boards?		Ū	Chaffinch Exhibit No. 1 entitled "Ver	dict Form" was
1	A. Yes. I remember going one time, and I am not		9	marked for identification	
	<u> </u>		10	Chaffinch Exhibit No. 2 which is a mo	emorandum to Lt.
2	saying there wasn't more than one time, but I only			Raiph Davis from Sgt. Alfred W. Parte	on, Jr. was marked
13	went once.		11	for identification	102
4	MR. NEUBERGER: I'd like to take a short		12	Chaffinch Exhibit No. 3 bates stampe	-
5	break and I think I am almost done.		13	FTU2940 was marked for identificati	on 128
16	(Recess taken.)			ERRATA SHEET	200
17	MR. NEUBERGER: Colonel, I have no further		14		
18	questions, but I would like to note for the record		15	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	201
19	that this deposition is subject to recall based on the		16		
20	punitive damages issue that we talked about with		17		
21	Mr. Ellis on the record this morning. Also, there is		18 19		
22	some outstanding discovery document requests as well.		20		
23	But subject to that, I don't have any further		21		
24	questions.		22		
			23		
			24		
		197			
	8/30/2005 Chaffinch, L. Aaron			8/30/2005 Chaffinch,	L. Aaron

			_	
1		MR. ELLIS: I don't have any questions.	1	
2		(The deposition was concluded at 2:40	2	
3	p.m.)		3	
4		••••	4	REPLACE THIS PAGE
5			5	WITH THE ERRATA SHEET
6			6	AFTER IT HAS BEEN
7			7	COMPLETED AND SIGNED
8			8	BY THE DEPONENT.
9			9	
10			10	
11			11	
12			12	
13			13	
14			14	
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16			16	
17			17	
18			18	
19			19	
20			20	
21			21	
22			22	
23			23	

)

New Castle County )

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Renee A. Meyers, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby certify that there came before me on the 30th day of August, 2005, the deponent herein, L. AARON CHAFFINCH, who was duly sworn by me and thereafter examined by counsel for the respective parties; that the questions asked of said deponent and the answers given were taken down by me in Stenotype notes and thereafter transcribed into typewriting under my direction.

I further certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony given at said examination of said witness.

I further certify that I am not counsel, attorney, or relative of either party, or otherwise interested in the event of this suit.

> Renee A. Meyers Certification No. 106-RPR (Expires January 31, 2005)

DATED: September 2, 2005



In the Matter Of:

Price, et al. v. Chaffinch, et al.

C.A. # 04-1207

**Transcript of:** 

Thomas F. MacLeish

July 19, 2007

Wilcox & Fetzer, Ltd.

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Price, et al. Thomas F. MacLeish

v. C.A. # 04-1207 Chaffinch, et al. July 19, 2007

Page 1

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
               FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE
CORPORAL B. KURT PRICE,
CORPORAL WAYNE WARREN,
and SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER
D. FORAKER,
    Plaintiffs,
      v.
                              C.A. No. 04-1207
COLONEL L. AARON CHAFFINCH,)
individually and in his
official capacity as
Superintendent of the
Delaware State Police;
LIEUTENANT COLONEL THOMAS
F. MacLEISH, individually
and in his official
capacity as Deputy
Superintendent of the
Delaware State Police;
DAVID B. MITCHELL, in his
official capacity as the
Secretary of the Department)
of Safety and Homeland
Security of the State of
Delaware; and DIVISION OF
STATE POLICE, DEPARTMENT OF)
SAFETY AND HOMELAND
SECURITY, STATE OF
DELAWARE,
     Defendants.
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Deposition of COLONEL THOMAS F. MacLEISH taken pursuant to notice at the law offices of The Neuberger Firm, P.A., 2 East 7th Street, Suite 302, Wilmington, Delaware, beginning at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, July 19, 2005, before Kimberly A. Hurley, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public.

WILCOX & FETZER
1330 King Street - Wilmington, Delaware 19801
(302) 655-0477

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Price, et al. Thomas F. MacLeish

v. C.A. # 04-1207 Chaffinch, et al. July 19, 2007

	Page 2	1	Dage 4	
1	APPEARANCES:	1	Page 4 Instead of shaking your head, just say no.	
2	STEPHEN J. NEUBERGER, ESQUIRE	2	Do you understand that?	
2	MARTIN HAVERLY, ESQUIRE	3	A. Yes, I do.	
3	THE NEUBERGER FIRM, P.A. 2 East 7th Street - Suite 302	4	Q. After we're done here today, you will have an	
4	Wilmington, Delaware 19801	5	opportunity to review the transcript of the deposition to	
-	for the Plaintiffs	6	correct any typographical errors that may be made. Do	
5	EDWARD T. ELLIS, ESQUIRE	7	you understand that?	
6	MONTGOMERY McCRACKEN WALKER & RHOADS, LLP	8	A. Yes, I do.	
-	123 South Broad Street	9	Q. If I ask you a question and you don't understand	
7	Avenue of the Arts Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19109	10	the question, just ask me to rephrase that question. I	
8	for the Defendants	11	will be more than happy to do that. Do you understand?	
9	ALSO PRESENT:	12	A. Yes.	
10	SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER D. FORAKER CORPORAL B. KURT PRICE	13	Q. Do you understand that I don't want you to guess	
11	ALISON LASSETER	14	at any answers?	
12		15	A. Yes.	
13 14		16	Q. Are you taking any medications or is there	
15		17	anything else that would prevent you from testifying	
16		18	truthfully or remembering accurately today?	
17		19	A. No, I'm not.	
18 19		20	Q. If you need any breaks, if you need to go to the	
20		21	john, need to stretch your back out, need to take five	
21		22	minutes, let me know and I'll be happy to take a	
22 23		23	five-minute break.	
24		24	A. Yes.	
		1		
	Page 3		Page 5	
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1 2		1 2	the state of the s	
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lieutenant colonel of the Delaware State Police?
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- A. Typically, they are -- you have all operations
- report to you. You have HR and the academy that fall 3 under you, directly fall under you, and then all the
- 5 majors report to you. Take care of all operations,
- day-to-day operations of the division. 6
- 7 Q. Day-to-day operations of the Delaware State
- 8 Police are the responsibility of the lieutenant colonel,
- 9 also known as the deputy superintendent of the Delaware
- 10 State Police?
- 11 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 17 Q. Who promoted you to lieutenant colonel?
- 13 A. Colonel Chaffinch did.
- 14 Q. Before that you were a major on the executive
- 15 staff, weren't you?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- Q. And in both of those capacities you worked 17
- 18 closely with Colonel Chaffinch on a day-to-day basis?
- 19 A. Closer as lieutenant colonel than as major, but,
- yes, I worked with him closely. 20
- Q. Was it a great honor to be promoted to 21
- 22 lieutenant colonel?
- 23 A. Yes, it was.
- 24 Q. Was it a privilege?

6

A. I was in Hawaii when that article appeared. Q. Do you recall ever seeing a story about

have been a profile story about Colonel Chaffinch in the

Colonel Chaffinch in The News Journal?

Wilmington News Journal?

A. There have been several stories about

Colonel Chaffinch in the newspaper, Mr. Neuberger.

- Q. Have you ever been interviewed by a News Journal
- reporter about Colonel Chaffinch and say good things
- 10 about him?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Would you remember that you were the only
- trooper quoted in any of those articles actually saying 13
- anything good about him?
- 15 A. As I already stated, I don't recall reading the
- 16 article. I was in Hawaii when that article was
- published, and I never did find it. I never read the
- 18 article.

21

3

10

- Q. How about any article published about 19
- 20 Colonel Chaffinch?
  - MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
- 22 question if it's a question.
- 23 A. If you're asking me specifically about an
- article that I would say something good about him, I have 24

Page 7

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Up until your promotion to colonel and
- superintendent of the Delaware State Police, was that the 3
- 4 high point of your career?
- 5 A. I think the high point of my career was being 6
- appointed as a trooper.
- Q. Was it one of the high points of your career? 7
- 8 A. Yes, it was.
- 9 Q. You're on a first-name basis with
- 10 Colonel Chaffinch, aren't you?
- 11 A. Most of the time it's colonel, but, yes, I call
- 12 him Aaron on occasion.
- 13 Q. He's your friend, isn't he?
- 14 A. Yes, he is.
- 15 Q. For example, there was a profile story about
- Colonel Chaffinch in the April 2005 edition of The News 16
- 17 Journal, wasn't there?
- 18 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
- 19 question.
- 20 MR. NEUBERGER: You can answer.
- 21 A. Sir, I don't recall if there is. If you show it 22 to me, I'll probably remember it.
- 23 Q. Do you recall that on -- actually, I apologize.
- Do you recall that on March 27th of 2005, that there may

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- said good things to him to reporters, but I can't recall 2
- specific articles it appeared in.
  - Q. Are you and Colonel Chaffinch close?
- A. Define "close."
- 5 Q. More than friends?
- 6 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the
- 7 question.
- 8 A. Never had any physical relationship with him.
- 9 Q. I'll rephrase the question.
  - A. Mr. Neuberger, I could count on one hand the
- 11 number of times his wife and my wife and I went out to
- 12 dinner. I don't socialize with him typically. He is my
- 13 friend. But close friends? I feel very strongly about
- him. I think he's a good person, yes. 14
- 15 Q. Have you ever publicly bragged at any
- 16 commanders' meeting that you and Colonel Chaffinch are,
- 17 quote, joined at the hip, close quote?
- 18 MR. ELLIS: Object to the form of the 19
- question. 20 A. I told Colonel Chaffinch that we were joined at
- 21 the hip, yes, in a professional sense. 22
- Q. Did you ever say that publicly in a meeting of 23 commanders of the Delaware State Police?
  - A. I may have, yes.

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